

JUNE 1993

OPEN ARMS

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 6

..... MICHIGAN'S LESBIAN NEWSLETTER

CANCER PREVENTION PROGRAM in MICHIGAN INCLUDES LESBIANS

The Women's Cancer Awareness Committee of the Michigan Department of Public Health has acknowledged lesbians as a minority group at risk for breast

and cervical cancer. Dr. Suzanne Haynes, an epidemiologist at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD, believes lesbians have an increased risk of breast cancer because lesbians: 1) are less likely to have children before age 30, 2) have higher levels of alcohol intake, 3) lack regular gynecological follow up, 4) have a higher body mass index and 5) fail to perform regular breast self examinations. Any woman who is over age 40, lives in Michigan and cannot afford a mammogram or gynecological exam can receive information about a free screening by calling the Michigan Health Promotion Clearing House Hotline at 1-800-537-5666 to find the nearest participating health department.

IMPORTANT NOTICE



MILITARY BAN



Senate hearings are now in progress over lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military. Calls and letters are running 2 to 1 against lifting the ban, so please call or write your Senators and the President.

LESBIAN AT HUD

Roberta Achtenberg, a lesbian rights activist from San Francisco, has been nominated for Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Achtenberg currently lives with her lover, Mary Morgan, presiding judge of San Francisco's Municipal Court, and their 7 year old son. Jerry Falwell and his followers have asked their Senators to vote against her confirmation. Call or write your Senator and ask her/him to support Ms. Achtenberg.



REPORT HATE CRIMES NOW

Last summer the U.S. Justice Department asked the Human Rights agencies in Indiana to monitor hate crimes against lesbians and gays. Local police departments are also to keep such statistics but the only Indiana police department cooperating is that in Indianapolis.

Reports of any negative incident directed against you because of your sexual orientation between July 1, 1992 and June 30, 1993 should be telephoned to Betsy Roessner of the Human Rights Commission at 235-9355 or mailed to her at 1440 County-City Building, South Bend, IN 46601.

Your report can be made anonymously if you are uncomfortable giving your name. In addition to a description of the incident, it will be important to report the locality in which the harassment took place, when it occurred and a description of the harasser.

Any harassment you believe to have been made on the basis of your sexual orientation should be reported. Assaults, obscene phone calls, vandalizing of your car or home, name calling by people on the street or in stores should all be reported. All reports should be made by mid July. For more information contact Betsy Roessner at the Human Rights Commission, 235-9355.

-Mary



To Our Rootin' Section

Thank you, fans-you've been wonderful. Your voices have been heard, loud and clear. It is a boost for our team. WHISTLE STOP CAFE welcomes it. No matter what the final assessment-it is great to hear all the encouragement, and don't we all need that? Bring the pets and the young'uns. It can be a nice, cool evening to get out of the house, and spend an hour or so with friends and family. The final score of any game is often a disappointment-but it's not forever--and it is only a game. We have to be losers to appreciate winnin'. So who cares? It is just for fun and exercise, and a change of pace. Besides all that, we may have sisters on the opposing team. One never knows for sure. Keep rootin'. We love it! You're great. Keep up the good work.

Jean

COMMUNITY EVENTS

VIDEO NIGHT

Due to softball, Video Night has been cancelled until September.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP

Tues. 7-9 p.m.

For info, write:

LSG

P.O. Box 1281

Niles, MI 49120



SUNDAY BRUNCH

Village Landing

In North Village Mall, 1 1/2 blocks north of the toll road

(Cleveland Ave) on US 33 North

Call (219)-271-0338 for reservations no later than

9 p.m. on June 11th.

OPEN ARMS STAFF

Mary (219) 234-5986

Sheree (616) 684-6365

Kaye & Marcia (219) 271-0338

Advertising-Maggie: (219) 287-3124

Subscriptions: Kaye or Marcia

EVENTS COORDINATORS

3rd Friday Out: Lu & Sheree (616) 684-6365

Wimin's Video Night: Gloria & Julie (616) 684-4011

Game Night: Sheree (616) 684-6365

Sunday Brunch: Kaye & Marcia (219) 271-0338

OPEN ARMS DEADLINE/MEETING

The deadline for submissions for the July *Open Arms* is June 10th. Submissions can be mailed to Open Arms, P.O. Box 845, Mishawaka, IN 46546 or given to Mary, Sheree or Kaye. Submissions received after June 10th may not be published in the July newsletter.

Newsletter meeting: Sunday, June 13th, 1993 at Kaye and Marcia's, 6:00 p.m. Call 271-0338 for directions.

3RD SATURDAY OUT

Nicola's

1705 South Bend Ave., South Bend

June 19, 7 p.m.

Reservations due by June 16th

Call Lu or Sheree for reservations: (616)-684-6365

GAME NIGHT

Saturday, June 12th, 5 p.m.

Potluck and games at Lynn and Lisa's

Start at 5 p.m., eat at 6 p.m.

Call for directions: (219)-271-9459

WIMMIN'S SOFTBALL SCHEDULES

Team: **Whistle Stop Cafe**

Jun 4 7:00 Pott

Jun 11 7:00 Walker

Jun 18 7:00 Walker

Jun 25 8:00 Memorial

Jul 2 8:00 Pott

Jul 9 8:00 Boehm

Team: **All Thumbs**

Jun 4 8:00 Walker

Jun 11 7:00 Memorial

Jun 18 8:00 Pott

Jun 25 8:00 Boland

Jul 2 7:00 Boehm

Jul 9 7:00 Pott

Team: **Squads**

Jun 7 6:30 Central

Jun 11 7:30 Normain

Jun 14 6:30 Lincoln

Jun 18 7:30 Lincoln

Jun 25 8:30 Lincoln

Jun 28 8:30 Lincoln

Jul 2 6:30 Lincoln

Jul 9 7:30 Lincoln

MISSION STATEMENT

Open Arms exists to disseminate diverse information of interest to the Michiana lesbian community.

EDITORIAL POLICY

We may edit any article submitted for length or content. We ask that all articles submitted be signed and typed, but will respect the wishes of the author by not printing her name if so requested.

PLEASE TYPE SUBMISSIONS IF POSSIBLE

If it is possible for you to type your submissions on a letter quality typewriter or printer, please do so using a 55 space line. This will make layout much easier. Thanks.

maggie's mumblings



Dykes on DC...

Oh what a wonderful world!!

Actually, the trip to DC was a Dykequest fantasy come true. All along the toll road, we'd pass cars with signs, bumper stickers, men, women and wave and wave and wave. But that was just a teeny tiny sample of what was to come. When we arrived in DC, the hotel was swarming with them. (queers, you know) PARTY TIME!!!! You just kind of talked to everybody-even the straight people (Although they were few and far between).

Friday night we did Dupont Circle. Although we spent lots of money, the best part was scoping out all the homos. Gee, there sure were a lot of us. Lots of normal, abnormal, flamboyant, subdued, good looking, not so good looking, big, small, and everything in between. Was this real? Were we really the majority? Could it be? Do my eyes deceive me? Nope. It was dyke heaven. Well, maybe dyke heaven was really Saturday during the dyke march (which was a lot like Michigan). Loud, rowdy, fun, and some naked, women.

On Saturday, we walked about 10,000 miles. (Okay, so it just seemed like that much). We wandered through the quilt, mixed tears with the rain, and were very touched by all the raw, quiet emotions. Among all the sadness, there was a light note. Someone had written: "I'll see you in heaven-As always, I'll be late." Sounds like the person who wrote that had something in common with me. But then, I prefer operating on Dyke time. (If you don't know what I mean, refer to Yer Girlfriend)

We also ran into Alix Dobkin as we were sauntering on the mall. Isn't DC in the springtime fun? But the big problem was that there was maybe too many of us. (Nahhhhh) It's just that the women's events were so packed you couldn't get in. (At least that's what happened Sat. night. So, we got tickets ahead of time for a Sunday night dance.)

Well, Sunday was one of the most awesome experiences of my lesbian life. We were recruited (no, we enlisted) to be marshals at the front of the march, (Thanks Penny!!!) and we got to march in front of the banner, in front of Phil, Cybil, and Martina. (Of course, there were some South Benders who were marching right beside Martina-Just how did you finagle that?) Some women are just too awesome up close and personal. And after we marched, we ran into my favorite lesbian, Suede (That in and of itself made the trip worthwhile).

The afternoon rally was incredible. My mom

didn't tell me that fantasies really do come true. Martina, Lea Delaria, Suzanne Westenhoefer, Suede, Robin Tyler, Melissa Etheridge (give me those binoculars again), the Indigo Girls, (no let me have them just a little longer), Margie Adam, Casselberry-DuPree, to name just a few. Live sex acts. (Oops, how did that get in there? Oh... well there were these two women in front of us on the lawn, and they sort of got caught up in the spirit.)

And lots of sun! Wow, look at all the fried red lesbians. Maybe Fannie Flagg should write a book about that. Last week, (around May 5th) I ran into two women who were at the march and they were still peeling. (I have been fried before, I remembered to buy sunscreen).

And if we weren't tired enough that Sunday, we went to a lesbian dance that night. Three balconies and two dance floors full of women. Yeeha! Sometimes, you just can't get enough. And yes, more live sex acts. Sometimes they can't get enough either.

It was really disappointing to come back to the real world, but the trip back was a lot of fun too. Yep, we were also the majority at the rest stops. Look America, we really do exist! By the time we got back to Hoosierland however, there were considerably fewer queers at the rest stops. But there were still several carloads full.

Now Jerry Falwell would have his followers believe that lesbians and gays are terrible, that we will take over the planet (only in our dreams, Jerry), and cause all kinds of trouble. But I experienced a peace among all of us that I've only experienced before at festivals. And this event even included men! If gays and lesbians are so terrible, why was there no violence? (Because Jerry, that only exists in the white male dominated het world) When I was standing in line at Lambda Rising, a DC bookstore, some guy wanted to see how I had strung my freedom rings. He said, "Can I see how you did that? I didn't just want to grab at them." I said, "No problem, I really don't think I have to worry about you being some pervert out to sexually attack me." But I admit I did use him and just toss him away. (I needed a male opinion for a gift for a gay friend of mine)

If you didn't catch any of the hoopla on the news or C-Span, you missed some great fun. It's too bad that everyone couldn't experience the march. And it's too bad that we even need to march. Maybe this fantasy will too come true. Please.





NEWS NOTES

—Four of the five wimmin who worked on the editorial staff of *The Advocate* resigned or were fired last November and December. Two of the wimmin have filed lawsuits claiming sexual discrimination and sexual harassment.

—In May, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund (LLDEF) will open a regional office in Chicago. LLDEF is a legal group from New York that promotes lesbian/gay rights.

—The pollution squad for the Mexico City Police Department consists of 100 wimmin. The squad is limited to wimmin because they are viewed as being more honest and therefore, less likely to accept bribes. Also seems it's not macho to punch a female officer in Mexico City. (what about at home?) The female officers say that constant exposure to noxious fumes is the worst part of the job.

—Sean Edwards, one of the four people charged with the firebombing last September in Oregon that killed a lesbian, Hattie Mae Cohens, and a gay man has pleaded guilty to aggravated murder. Two of the others charged in the murder have ties to a neo-Nazi white supremacist group.

—The Sixth Annual National Black Gay and Lesbian Conference was held in February in Long Beach, CA and drew a crowd of 700 people. Activist Angela Davis (she will also be in Bloomington in June), poet Essex Hemphill and author Bell Hooks all spoke at the conference which was dedicated to the memory of Audre Lorde who died in November, 1992 of cancer.

—The US Department of Housing and Urban Development put a new policy into effect last November that permits employees to take family leave for illness of same-sex partners. This may be the first domestic partnership benefit ever offered by a federal agency.

—The Illinois legislature is considering adding sexual orientation to its state civil rights laws.

—Based on the Swazi tradition, which says two wimmin can legally marry if the parents of both wimmin give their consent and the woman who pays the "bride price" delegates a man to beget children for her, a judge in South Africa has ruled a marriage between two wimmin valid.

FUND-RAISER for THE YWCA WOMEN'S SHELTER

The YWCA of St. Joseph County is having a reception for artist Cathy Salser on Tuesday, June 1st, 1993 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at The Art Market Sales & Rental Gallery, South Bend Regional Museum of Art (located on the upper level, Century Center), 120 S. St. Joseph St., South Bend. Ms. Salser's paintings reflect the work she has done with the battered women's shelters.



Life

Life a pleasure or struggle.
Life given to us to live to the fullest.
To do the best we can to live for God.
Caring for others, working, school and play,
We don't always succeed.



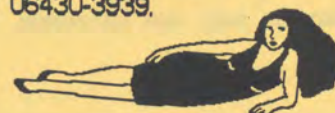
To find happiness in the world we must
be happy with ourselves.
We hear how the world is full of violence,
hatred, hunger and despair. We are reminded
how the beauty of the world appears to be
fading away...

We should see life as beautiful.
The gentleness of a touch.
The warmth of a helping hand.
The exuberance of lending a hand
Believing dreams come true.
Having a mind to dream and imagine.
To look in amazement at the beauty of nature of life.



SHORT STORIES WANTED

Liberation Inc. has formed two new subsidiaries: Marie's Press, which carries lesbian/feminist book, and Wild Orchids, which publishes lesbian erotica. Wild Orchids is seeking short erotic lesbian stories. If interested write: Bridget Albert, Liberation Inc., 89 Robin Lane, Room 203, Fairfield, CT 06430-3939.



Magazine for Girls and Their Dreams

New Moon is a 48 page magazine published bimonthly for girls. It is edited by 8-14 year olds and includes a 16 page newsletter for parents. Write: New Moon Magazine, 424 Lakeview Ave., Duluth, MN 55812, (218)-728-5507.

LESBIAN AND GAY BOOKS
AT THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

- 289.9M **Don't Be Afraid Anymore: The Story of Reverend Troy Perry**
P466-1 **and the Metropolitan Community Churches** by Troy Perry.
St. Martin's Press, 1990
- 283.73092 **Gay Priest: An Inner Journey** by Malcolm Boyd. St. Martin's
B789.2 Press, 1986
- 253 **Gay Priests** by James Wolf. Harper and Row, 1989.
- G2855
- 261.6 **Is the Homosexual My Neighbor?** by Letha Scanzoni and
S283 Virginia Ramey Mollenkott. Harper and Row, 1978.
- 220.83926 **Jonathan Loved David: Homosexuality in Biblical Times** by
H816-1 Tom Horner. Westminster Press, 1978.
- 271.909 **Lesbian Nuns: Breaking the Silence** by Rosemary Curb and
L6235 Nancy Manahan. Naiad Press, 1985.
- 287.6092 **Let My People In: A Lesbian Minister Tells of her Struggles**
D397 **To Live Openly and Maintain Her Ministry** by Rose Mary
Denman. Morrow Press, 1990.
- 176 **Living in Sin? A Bishop Rethinks Human Sexuality** by John S763
Shelby Spong. Harper and Row, 1988.
- 241.66 **Amazing Grace: Stories of Gay and Lesbian Faith** by Malcolm
Am 15 Boyd and Nancy L. Wilson. Crossings Press, 1991.

NEW BOOKS NEW BOOK NEW BOOK NEW BOOK NEW BOOK

- 306.766 **The Gay Book of Days: An Evocatively Illustrated Who's Who**
G862g **of Who Is, Was, May Have Been, Probably Was, and Almost**
Certainly Seems to Have Been Gay During the Past 5,000
Years by Martin Greif. Main Street Press, 1989.

Next Month: Art, Music and Sports



JUSTICE, INC. from INDIANAPOLIS

Justice, Inc. is seeking representatives of lesbian/gay organizations from Indiana to serve on its Board of Directors which meets once a month, usually the third Saturday, in Indianapolis. If interested call: Wally Paynter at (812)-853-7411 (H) or (812)-424-3845 (W), John Roach or Ken Shay at 1-800-886-GAYS.



MOMAZONS

Momazons is a national organization for lesbian mothers and lesbians who want children. For support, newsletter or resource exchange write: Momazons, P.O. Box 02069, Columbus, OH 43202, (614)-267-0193.

LESBIAN AND GAY AA GROUPS

Sundays: Elkhart General Hospital

Renaissance Unit

2nd Floor

7 p.m.

Mondays: First Unitarian Church

101 E. Northshore

South Bend

(1st meeting of the month is an open meeting)

Saturdays: First Unitarian Church

101 E. Northshore

South Bend

8 p.m.

PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES:

President Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20500, or White House Comment Line at 1-202-456-1111

The Pentagon at 1-703-545-6700 or Pentagon Opinion Line at 1-703-697-5737

Senate: Honorable _____, US Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510

(Indiana--Richard Lugar, 1-202-224-4814, does not support)

(Mich.--Carl Levin, 1-202-224-6221 or 1-616-456-2531

Don Riegle, 1-202-224-4822 or 1-616-456-2592)

House: Representative _____, US House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515

(Indiana--Frank McCloskey, 1-800-392-6269, supports)

(Mich.--Bart Stupak, 1-202-225-4735

Fred Upton, 1-202-225-3761 or 1-616-385-0039)



LESBIAN SHOPPERS

A group of 35 lesbians which calls itself, Lesbian Visibility, shop at suburban Philadelphia malls where the members pair off and hold hands while shopping. The group's founder, Shelley Krause, says the responses have included raised eyebrows, dropped jaws, bugged out eyes, looks of shock and sometimes encouragement. The purpose of the group is to raise the lesbian profile in the suburbs where they are less visible and to increase public awareness of homosexuals.



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LAVENDER MORNING SOCK HOP

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8 PM 'til 1 AM

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Michigan Womyn's Music Festival

Ticket Purchases

The sliding scale for advance ticket purchases allows for womyn of different economic abilities to pay within a range. We leave this as your decision, and we ask womyn who can, to pay the higher rate to accommodate womyn who cannot.

	Advance by 7/17	At Gate	Earliest Admittance
6 Day: Mon/Tues-Sun	\$200-230	\$225	Mon 2-11pm Tues 7 am
5 Day: Wed-Sun	\$175-205	\$200	Tues 12 Midnight
4 Day: Thu-Sun	\$150-180	\$175	Wed 12 Midnight
3 Day: Fri-Sun	\$125-155	\$150	Thu 12 Midnight
2 Day: Sat-Sun	\$ 75-105	\$100	Fri 12 Midnight
1 Day: Sunday	\$ 35- 55	\$ 50	Sat 12 Midnight

Money orders, Visa, MasterCard, bank or traveler checks accepted. No personal checks.

The Festival has a limited number of ticket subsidies to extend to womyn who are of economic disadvantage. We ask that only womyn who truly are excluded from the above price range apply. All requests for applications must be postmarked by June 12th. No reductions will be made at the gate. Womyn over 65 or 16 & under who are on fixed income or no income are admitted free. Price includes all activities, concerts, dances, food, workshops, films, camping, outdoor showers and portable toilets. MWMF is a gathering of mothers and daughters for all womyn born womyn.

Important Dates and Deadlines

August 10 - 15	Festival Week
June 12 Postmark:	Completed Workshops for Program* Request Reduced Rate Application Program Advertising*
July 8 Postmark:	Ticket Refund Request Completed DART RV Permit Request
July 17 Postmark:	Advance Ticket Purchase Airport Shuttle Reservation*
July 26 Postmark:	Completed DART Registration* Completed Childcare Reservation*



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Call Susan in Saugatuck at (616) 857-2586.



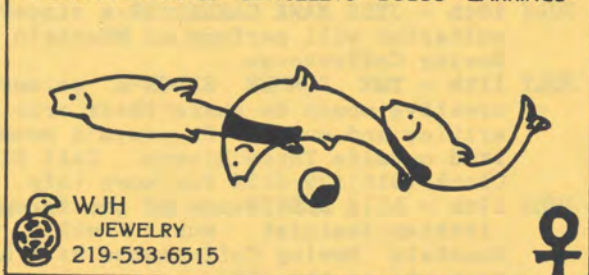
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JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Support Group 7 p.m.	2 NOW Mtg YWCA 7:30 p.m.	3 Nat Music Fest. Bloomington	4	5 Dance Kzoo 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
6 AA Elkhart 7 p.m. every Sunday	7 AA South Bend 7 p.m.	8	9	10 Submissions to Open Arms due	11 Reserv. for Sun Brunch due by 9pm	12 Game Night 5 p.m.
13 Sunday Brunch Pride Day OA Mtg 6pm	14 	15	16 Reserv. for 3rd Sat. Out due	17	18	19 Third Saturday Out 7 p.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Pride Day Chicago
27 PFLAG Mtg. 2-4 p.m.	28	29	30			AA South Bend 8 p.m. every Saturday

ALL TIMES ARE INDIANA TIME

OTHER COMING EVENTS

JUNE 5th - LAVENDER MORNING SOCK HOP, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., People's Church, 1758 N. 10th St., Kalamazoo, MI. Chem-free, wimmin only, admission \$8, child care provided.

JUNE 6th - PRIDEFEST in Detroit.

JUNE 11-24 - The movie Claire of the Moon: One woman's journey into her sexual identity will be showing at the Music Box in Chicago.

JUNE 12th - PAM HALL- a 5th generation dyke who performs blues-spiced rock. Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, Chicago, IL call (312) 561-6544 or (312) 685-8310 for information.

JUNE 13th - Michiana PRIDE DAY-10 a.m. to 4 p.m., First Unitarian Church, South Bend.

JUNE 13th - Grand Rapids GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL LIFE CELEBRATION-4-10 p.m., Monroe Amphitheater.

JUNE 19th - PRIDE DAY celebration in Indianapolis.

JUNE 19th - ARTEMIS SINGERS-Chicago's only lesbian-feminist will perform at Mountain Moving Coffeehouse.

JUNE 26th - 2nd Annual MICHIGAN PRIDE DINNER in Lansing.

JUNE 26th - PRIDE DAY in Chicago.

JUNE 27th - 1993 MICHIGAN MARCH FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS in Lansing. Call MOHR office at (517) 887-2605 for more info.

JULY 10th - JESS HAWK OAKENSTAR-a singer/guitarist will perform at Mountain Moving Coffeehouse.

JULY 11th - THE SUMMER SALON-a gathering of creative women to share their arts, writing and music. On womyn's wooded land outside Three Rivers. Call Kim Clark (616) 279-6134 for more info.

JULY 17th - ALIX DOBKIN-one of the foremothers lesbian-feminist music will be at Mountain Moving Coffeehouse with her comments on the '90s.

AUG. 10-15 -MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL. For more info call (616) 757-4766 or write WWTMC, P.O. Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458.

1st Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. NOW meeting, South Bend YWCA, 822 N. Lafayette

4th Sunday - P-FLAG Meeting 2-4 p.m., Christ the King Lutheran Church, 17195 Cleveland Rd., South Bend.